keeping in view the interests of the growers on the one hand and, on the other, the requirement of the consumers, particularly in the decentralised and handloom sectors. In the current cotton season, one lack bales of Bengal-Deshi cotton has been released for export. With a view to encouraging modernisation in the ginning & pressing sector, export of one lack bales of cotton by modern ginning and pressing units has also been announced.

Revival of Textiles Mills in Ahmedabad

2205. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat in consultation with Textile Labour Association had submitted in 1991-92 a project called "Ahmedabad Project", for rejuvenation and revival of some 14 textile mills in Ahmedabad, against a provision of Rs 150 crore headed "Ahmedabad Textile Mills' in the Central Budget 1991-92;

(b) if so, the details of the projects;

(c) whether the project was accepted, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) steps taken/being taken for revival of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Industry for assistance from the National Reneval Fund, amounting to Rs. 168.38 crores for an Area Regeneration Scheme, covering 19 closed textile mills under liquidation, of which 14 mills are in Ahmedahad. The proposal envisages taking over of the assets of the closed textile mills under liquidation by the State Government; payment of the legal dues to the employees of the closed textile mills; and implementation of an area regeneration scheme.

(c) and (d) According to the Ministry of Industry, the proposal of the State Government would be taken up after necessary approval to the operational modalities for grant of assistance from the National Renewal Fund has been obtained.

Sick Industrial Companies Registered with BIFR

2206. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra had the largest number of sick industrial companies registered with BIFR as on the 30th September, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the reasons for the sickness of industrial companies in the State in such large numbers;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) remedial measures Government propose to take to contain the sickness of industrial companies in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that Maharashtra with 274 cases of sick industrial companies is having the maximum number of cases registered with it as on 30th September, 1995.

(c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had made a review of sick/weak industrial units based on comprehensive half-yearly returns on sick and weak industrial units furnished by scheduled commercial banks as at the end of March 1994. The main reasons for industrial sickness based on the number of occurrences in respect of 2500 sick/weak non-SSI units in the country as reported by the banks included both internal factors (such as deficiencies in project appraisal, project management and project implementation) and external factors (such as non-availability of raw materials, power shortage, financial